

Message Text

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TAGS: EAID, JA

SUBJ: RESOURCES FOR POPULATION ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 222901

SUMMARY: JAPAN'S POPULATION ASSISTANCE WILL INCREASE FURTHER IN JFY 1975, BUT AID POLICIES AND AID LEVELS IN THIS FIELD IN FUTURE REMAIN TO BE DETERMINED. FONOFF ANXIOUS TO INCREASE EFFECTIVENESS JAPAN'S AID IN THIS FIELD BUT FACES BUREAUCRATIC AND OTHER DIFFICULTIES. JAPAN WILL UTILIZE MULTILATERAL AGENCIES AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATION AS WELL AS PROVIDE BILATERAL AID IN THIS FIELD. END SUMMARY.

1. ON OCTOBER 14 EMBOFF DISCUSSED WITH FONOFF REPS FROM ECONOMIC COOPERATION BUREAU PLANNING DIVISION (NISHIMURA) AND FIRST TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION (TANAKA) GOJ THINKING ON RESOURCES FOR POPULATION ASSISTANCE. THEY MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

2. DATA COMPILED FOR SUBMISSION TO DAC INDICATE THAT GOJ AID TO POPULATION PROGRAMMES AMOUNTED TO 2.758 MILLION DOLLARS ON DISBURSEMENTS BASIS IN 1973. THIS FIGURE AMOUNTED TO 4.8 PERCENT OF JAPAN'S TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND 0.27 PERCENT OF JAPAN'S ODA IN THAT YEAR. FONOFF BUDGET DATA FOR JFY 1973, 1974, AND 1975 (LAST OF WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT YET APPROVED--TREAT CONFIDENTIALLY) INDICATE THAT

FONOFF'S BUDGETED FUNDS FOR POPULATION ASSISTANCE, WHICH ESSENTIALLY EQUAL TO TOTAL GOJ DUBETED FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE, AMOUNTED TO 857 MILLION YEN (ABOUT 2.8 MILLION DOLLARS AT 308 YEN/DOLLAR, RATE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE) IN 1973, 1,725 MILLION YEN (ABOUT 5.6 MILLION DOLLARS) IN 1974, AND WILL REACH 2.335 MILLION YEN (ABOUT 7.55 MILLION DOLLARS) IN 1975.

3. JAPAN'S AID IN THIS AREA HAS HERETOFORE TAKEN FORM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, I.E., DISPATCH OF SURVEY TEAMS AND EXPERTS OVERSEAS, AND PROVISION OF APPROPRIATE QTE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT UNQTE (CONDOMS); CONTRIBUTIONS TO ORGANIZATIONS WORKING IN THIS FIELD, I.E., JAPAN ORGANIZATION FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN FAMILY PLANNING AND SOUTH EAST ASIA INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (BASED IN KUALA LUMPUR); AND GRANTS TO UNFPA. JAPAN HAS PROVIDED AID TO INDONESIA, THAILAND, AND THE PHILLIPPINES, AND EXPECTS TO BEGIN AID TO BANGLADESH DURING THIS FISCAL YEAR.

4. SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN JAPANESE AID EFFORT IN THIS FIELD IN LAST YEAR OR SO RESULTED FROM OCCURENCE OF WORLD POPULATION YEAR AND WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE. AND STRONG LOBBYING FOR INCREASED POPULATION AID BY INFLUENTIAL JAPANESE CITIZENS LED BY FORMER PRIME MINISTER KISHI. WHETHER SUCH INCREASES WILL CONTINUE REMAINS TO BE SEEN. JAPAN HAS NOT FORMULATED ANY OVERALL POLICY IN THIS FIELD YET, BUT FONOFF AT LEAST IS AWARE OF SERIOUSNESS OF POPULATION PROBLEM IN LDC'S AND HOPING TO IMPROVE EFFECTIVDDNESS OF JAPAN'S AID EFFORTS IN THIS FIELD. FONOFF IS DISPOSED TO CONTINUE USING PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS WORKING IN THIS FIELD WHICH HAVE DEMONSTRATED THEIR EFFECTIVENESS AND TO CONTINUE GIVING AID THROUGH MULTILATERAL AGENCIES, I.E. UNFPA. JAPAN'S AID IN THIS FIELD SO FAR HAS BEEN LIMITED TO DAC CATEGORY B, FAMILY PLANNING. IN FUTURE, JAPAN WILL LIKELY UNDERTAKE WORK IN CATEGORY A, DEMOGRAPHY, AS WELL.

5. IN PAST, JAPAN'S SUCCESS IN DEALING WITH ITS OWN POPULATION PROBLEMS HAS CREATED COMPLACENCY ON PART LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF JAPAN WITH RESPECT TO POPULATION PROBLEMS IN LDC'S. FURTHERMORE, JAPANESE RESTRICTIONS ON PRODUCTION AND USE OF ORAL CONTRACEPTIVES AND (UNTIL RECENTLY) IUD WITHIN JAPAN HAVE ACTED AS LIMITES ON EFFECTIVENESS OF JAPANESE AID EFFORTS IN THIS FIELD IN THAT JAPAN HAS BEEN UNABLE TO PROVIDE DIRECTLY THESE BIRTH CONTROL DEVICES, WHICH ARE MOST DESIRED BY LDC'S. CONSEQUENTLY, JAPAN HAS HAD TO RELY ON QTE EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION, AND INFORMATION

UNQTE AS BASIC AID TECHNIQUES IN THIS FIELD. RAISING
AWARENESS OF POPULATIONS IN LDC'S THROUGH SUCH TECHNIQUES
IS ESSENTIAL, BUT WITHOUT THE PROVISION OF APPROPRIATE
DEVICES CANNOT BE EFFECTIVE. JAPAN HAS PROVIDED CONDOM
QTE SAMPLES UNQTE TO AIDED COUNTRIES, AND IN FY 75 BUDGET
WILL REQUEST QUADRUPLING OF FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE, BUT
FONOFF REALIZES THIS STILL INADEQUATE. SWEDEN BUYS
JAPANESE CONDOMS TO DISTRIBUTE TO LDC'S, BUT DISINCLINA-
TION OF GOJ MINISTRIES (IN PARTICULAR, FINANCE) TO PRO-
VIDE ANY KIND OF CONSUMER GOODS UNDER AID PROGRAMS IS
BARRIER TO INCREASED EFFORT OF THIS KIND. FONOFF WOULD
AT LEAST LIKE TO GET AWAY FROM QTE HALF WAY AID UNQTE
DESCRIBED IN THIS PARAGRAPH.
HODGSON

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